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NAL's Approach to Water Quality Issues

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Clean water is a precious natural resource that is necessary for the health and survival of humans both as individuals and as a species. But human activities, including agriculture, can sometimes cause water contamination problems. Harmful ecological effects may result and water may become unsuitable for human use. Americans are concerned. The Roper Organization reports that in 1978, two-thirds of the public felt that severe water pollution would be a threat to future generations. By 1991, three-quarters of the public held this view.

Many individuals and organizations are working to protect water resources. Through the Working Group on Water Quality, agencies of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, including NAL, are cooperatively using their respective expertise to protect water quality while ensuring agricultural productivity.

Established in 1990, the Water Quality Information Center serves as the focal point of NAL's water quality efforts. The center collects, organizes, and communicates scientific findings, educational methodologies, and public policy issues related to water quality and agriculture. The resources at the center's disposal are suited especially well to serving the needs of policy makers, researchers, and educators.

To assist individuals looking for information on water quality topics, the



The Water Quality Information Center Logo.

center provides services that include performing brief literature searches of databases on CD-ROM discs, directing clients to additional information sources, and maintaining a list of NAL publications related to water quality. With access to many commercial on-line databases, the center can assist individuals who need a comprehensive literature search on a specific water quality topic. Because of budget constraints, these searches often must be done on a cost-recovery basis.

The center also manages the Water Information Network (WIN)—a computer conference on ALF (Agricultural Library Forum), NAL's electronic bulletin board. WIN contains bulletins which provide information on timely water quality topics as well as files containing information useful in research and education. WIN also has an electronic mail capability that allows users to exchange information among themselves or with the Water Quality Information Center.

Offerings on WIN have progressively increased and the system is now accessible through Internet. One of the WIN bulletins is a comprehensive listing of water quality meetings and call-for-papers. This bulletin is updated monthly and typically contains more than 85 entries. Other water quality information on WIN includes:

- Fact sheets
- List of satellite videoconferences (updated monthly)
- Funding opportunities
- Job postings
- Bibliographies
- Hotline numbers

Center materials have also been posted on the University of Maryland

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AMF

InforM Internet gopher site. To access these materials key in **gopher** or **telnet** and the address **inform.umd.edu** and then select **Educational Resources**, followed by **Agricultural Resources**, and finally **Water Quality Information Center**.

Other WQIC Internet efforts include compiling a listing of electronic discussion forums (called "lists") related to water resources. This document is posted on WIN and also on Maryland's InforM. Center staff subscribe to many of these discussion lists as a means of interacting with the various segments of the water quality community.

The center produces and distributes water quality titles for NAL's quick bibliography (QB) series. Citations are selected from AGRICOLA — NAL's database of agricultural literature citations which contains more than three million records. The QB series covers topics that have a high level of current interest or are topics of increasing importance in the area of water quality

and agriculture. *Risk Assessment and Communication Related to Water Resources* is an example of a current title.

... in 1978, two-thirds of the public felt that severe water pollution would be a threat to future generations. By 1991, three-quarters of the public held this view.

The center has a small budget and operates with less than two full-time professionals. To leverage resources, the center frequently collaborates with others who have similar interests. For example, the center is currently working with NAL's Alternative Farming Systems Information Center to create a bibliography on precision farming techniques and with USDA's Soil Conservation Service on a bibliography concerning constructed wetlands for wastewater treatment.

Services of the Water Quality Information Center have been in demand: in fiscal years (FYs) 1991-93 the center responded to

more than six hundred inquiries on water quality topics by providing technical information, referrals, and literature searches. In addition, seven thousand NAL-produced publications on water quality have been distributed. At the beginning of FY 94, the center had available twenty-five titles — mostly bibliographies — on current topics related to water quality and agriculture. In FY 93, five new bibliographies were produced and three were updated. As new areas of interest emerge within the water quality community, additional bibliographies will be developed to

help fill the information needs that result.

A less visible function of the center, but over the long term a very important one, is improving NAL's water quality resources: the center identifies and recommends additions to NAL's collection, forwards items to the library's gifts program, and works to strengthen water quality subject coverage in AGRICOLA.

Approximately three-thousand citations related to water resources have been added to the AGRICOLA database each year during Fiscal Years 91-93. In addition, the center has made recommendations leading to the indexing of nine additional water quality journals in AGRICOLA and adding abstracts to the AGRICOLA citations of five more water quality journals. Through the Water Quality Information Center — which acquires publications directly or recommends that NAL acquire them — hundreds of water quality titles have been added to the NAL collection that otherwise would not have been added. These improvements to AGRICOLA and the NAL collection are not ephemeral: they will provide both immediate and lasting benefit to individuals seeking information necessary to address issues related to agriculture and water resources.

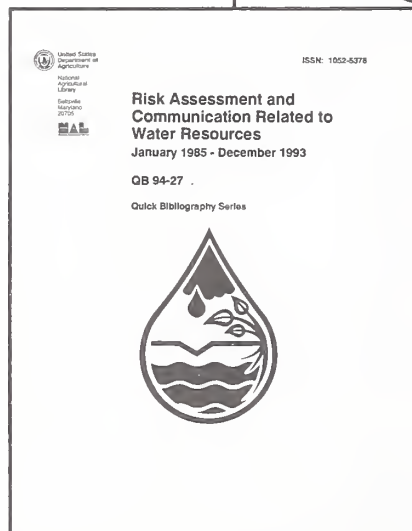
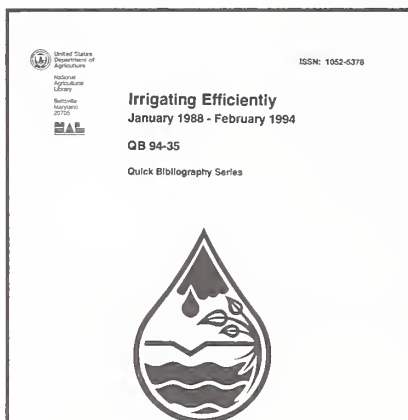
The influence of environmental considerations on agricultural operations has never been greater. As science and policy strive to craft agricultural systems that are both environmentally friendly, profitable, and productive, the Water Quality Information Center plays an important role in providing efficient access to the information necessary for progress.

For a listing of bibliographies or information on accessing WIN, contact WQIC via:

Internet: wqic@nalusda.gov
Telephone: 301-504-6077
TDD/TTY: (301) 504-6856
Fax: (301) 504-7098

Or write to:

Water Quality Information Center
National Agricultural Library, USDA
10301 Baltimore Boulevard, 4th Floor
Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2351



Two recent Quick Bibliographies from WQIC.

Acquisitions at the National Agricultural Library

by Karl E. Debus
Head, Monographic Acquisitions
and Fiscal Units
Acquisitions & Serials Branch, NAL

[This article was originally published in *Against the Grain*, Volume 6, No. 3, June 1994, a journal for the community of acquisitions librarians. The article has been slightly modified for *ALIN*.]

Introduction

Acquisitions work at the National Agricultural Library is truly an international effort. With approval plans that cover the world and a gift and exchange program that includes partners in every continent (except Antarctica), NAL's international leadership in collecting and disseminating agricultural information is unsurpassed.

NAL, the world's largest library devoted solely to the collection and dissemination of agricultural and agriculture-related information, is also one of the three national libraries of the United States. While NAL works closely with the Library of Congress and the National Library of Medicine to ensure coordinated collection development between the three national libraries, NAL also serves a special role as the departmental library for the 115,000 employees of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). NAL's online union catalog, in its VTLS-based ISIS system (Integrated System for Information Services), contains information from NAL, five USDA Agricultural Research Service field libraries, the National Arboretum, and cooperators who catalog specialized agricultural information for inclusion in the database. The intermixing of NAL's international, national, and departmental roles makes the business of acquisitions at NAL challenging and interesting.

When most people think of agriculture, they generally think of farms, cows, and crops. The scope of NAL's acquisitions efforts is far broader than this image. NAL's collection of more

than two million volumes covers a broad range of topics specific to and related to agriculture. Thirteen specialized information centers identify and request titles in topics as diverse as biotechnology, food and nutrition, and youth development. Other areas of specific concern to USDA and NAL include forestry, animal welfare, water quality, alternative farming systems, global change, rural health, aquaculture, and the plant genome project. The subject specialists in NAL's information centers and reference services request titles that supplement the broader selection activities managed by the librarians of NAL's Acquisitions & Serials Branch.

NAL's Acquisitions and Serials Branch

The Acquisitions & Serials Branch of NAL is comprised of 33 staff, six of whom are librarians. The head of the branch oversees three unit heads who are responsible for serial acquisitions, monographic acquisitions and fiscal control, and gift and exchange. Two other librarians are responsible for collection development, selection of titles,

administering the GPO selective Depository Library Program and reviewing titles received from the Library of Congress' Special Foreign Approval Program. In fiscal year 1993, the materials budget for NAL was a little over \$2 million dollars. This represented about 11% of NAL's budget. Eighty-one percent of the materials budget was expended on serials; monographic expenditures accounted for 19%. The unique quality of many of the titles acquired by NAL is shown by the fact that 40% of the cataloging processed by the library is original.

Monographic Acquisitions

NAL uses the VTLS-based ISIS system for acquisitions and fund control of firm-ordered monographs. A dBASE IV database is used to track expenditures of books received on blanket orders. The ISIS Acquisitions and Fund Accounting System (AFAS) is divided into three primary functions. The Acquisitions System contains modules for orders, receipts, invoices, payments, credit memos, and claims. Acquisitions Utilities contains vendor, fund accounting, and library address



photo: J. Swab

Five of the six librarians in the Acquisitions & Serials Branch. (L-R) Karl Debus, Leader, Order & Fiscal; Caroline Early, Head of the Branch; Win Gelenter, Leader, Serials; Ellen Pletsch; and Ruth Wertman. (The sixth, Rae Dubois, is in another photo.)



photo: J. Swab

Judy Winesdorfer, Library Technician in the Monographic Acquisitions and Fiscal Control Unit, discusses a spreadsheet with Ann Palmes (standing), Secretary of the Acquisitions & Serials Branch.

modules as well as utilities that allow the user to select different currencies, develop individualized help screens, generate reports, add user-id's, and close out the fiscal year. Housekeeping allows the user to perform reindexing of databases, backups and recoveries, and archiving of outdated

receipts and canceled orders. Since AFAS resides on a dBASE platform, members of the Acquisitions & Serials Branch routinely download files from AFAS to dBASE to construct more sophisticated reports than are currently available on AFAS.

AFAS runs on a Novell network. Eight workstations are attached to this network, which is linked to the Hewlett Packard minicomputer that supports the other VTLS integrated library system modules in ISIS: Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC); Serials Control; Circulation; Cataloging; Indexing; and the AGRICOLA Tape Production System. Status information from AFAS is updated in ISIS on a daily basis. All users can identify whether an in process monographic record is "to be ordered," "on order," "received," or "canceled."

In FY 1993 firm-ordered titles accounted for 81% of monographic expenditures, with approval plans representing the remaining 19%. Approximately 28% of all monographic expenditures were spent on foreign titles. The Acquisitions & Serials Branch received and processed 11,000 books. Thirty-eight percent of these titles were received as gifts, including titles received from GPO.

Several of the NAL information centers rely heavily on audiovisual materials. This specialized need is represented in the fact that audiovisuals and other non-book formats accounted for 13% of the total money expended on monographs. The NAL audiovisual collection is particularly strong in the areas of food and nutrition and animal welfare.



photo: J. Swab

Library technicians in the Monographic Acquisitions and Fiscal Control Unit: (L-R) Kurt Kuss, John Wooden, Veronica Perkins, Paul DeAnna, Deborah McNeill, Ruth Boyd, Susan Louthan, and Stacey Cole.

Serial Acquisitions

NAL uses an ISIS module for serials control which is separate from the Acquisitions module. The Serials Control function, unlike AFAS, resides on the minicomputer and uses MARC holdings format. Special characteristics of Serials Control include a predictive checkin feature for all serial issues and a well designed function that allows users to checkin indexes and supplements. For patrons unfamiliar with MARC, VTLS has developed a screen to allow users to read bibliographic information in library card format. An agent file, which resides in the Circulation module and is linked to Serials Control, merges with a form letter to produce claims. The separate Indexing module links to the main serial title in the OPAC, providing bibliographic information for all AGRICOLA citations and abstracts.



photo: J. Swab

(Above) Veronica Perkins and Deborah McNeill and (above right) John Wooden and Paul DeAnna search



photo:

NAL acquisitions and cataloging records at their OCLC work stations.

NAL has found it necessary to supplement the ISIS Serials Control with dBASE to attain greater control over serial orders and expenditures. Currently, the Fiscal and Serials Units maintain seven separate dBASE databases. The Invoice and C.O. databases track all line item expenditures for subscription and continuation

orders. Once a month the data in these two databases are merged into the Serials database that contains annual expenditures for each NAL-purchased serial title. The Serials Unit also maintains the following dBASE databases: Cancellations; Not Kept, (for out of scope and weeded titles); Serial Vendors, (for ordering new serial titles);

and Requested Serial Titles, (for titles requested, but not ordered because of lack of funds).

Approximately 22,000 serial titles are currently collected by NAL. About 32%, or 7,000 of these titles are purchased; the remaining 68% are received through NAL's extensive Gift



photo: J. Swab

Serials Unit technicians: (L-R) Anita Puryear, Vincent Parker, Linda Showers, Connie Ames, Benjamin Johns, Don Yeldell, Jane McLeod, Nancy Raff, Lena Garner, and Sandy Boone; and Serials Unit Leader, Win Gelenter. One technician, Eva Edwards, is absent from this photo.

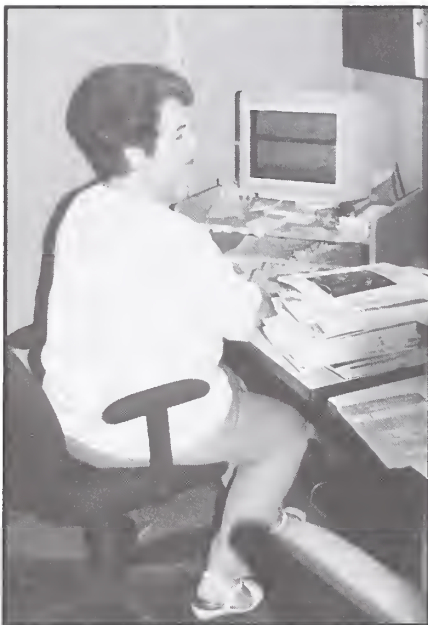


photo: J. Swab

Nancy Raff checking in electronic serials.

& Exchange program. Half of the serial titles purchased are foreign. In FY 1993 the Serials Unit processed 133,000 issues for the collection. Fifteen hundred of the serial titles received at NAL are indexed in AGRICOLA, NAL's bibliographic database of English and foreign language cataloged titles (monographs and serials) and important articles on agriculture and related fields. Over 3 million citations are currently found in AGRICOLA, which is available on CD-ROM and online.

Gift & Exchange

Approximately 15,000 serial titles are received by NAL through its Gift & Exchange program. G&E receives these titles from 4,700 foreign partners in 135 countries. In addition, G&E receives titles from about 3,500 domestic gift sources. Fifty USDA serial titles are exchanged with the partners. The G&E Unit continually verifies whether its agreements are still active. It takes approximately four years to verify all foreign exchange partners.

Most of the G&E information is contained in three primary dBASE databases. The Tracking database maintains information on which titles

have been requested to avoid duplicating orders sent to the exchange partners. The Exchange database contains the addresses of all foreign and domestic partners and the Title Bank contains the individual titles and holdings of all serials received on exchange.

G&E also runs two special projects for the Library. The first project, which is funded by the Food and Agriculture Organization and USDA, coordinates the sending of surplus scientific journals to the Baltic States of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia. The second project, funded by NAL, coordinates the sending of surplus monographs to the 1890 Land-Grant Colleges and Tuskegee University.

Electronic Information Initiative

NAL is currently involved in a major electronic information initiative. The goal of this initiative is to integrate electronic procedures and materials in all aspects of the Library's functions and collection. NAL has officially announced that in January 1995 electronic media will be the preferred format for all accessed and received titles. To meet this goal, the Acquisi-



photo: J. Swab

Janet Strickling, a technician in the Gift and Exchange Unit, operates the Acquisitions & Serials mail room.

tions & Serials Branch notifies the Cataloging Branch of electronic journals and research databases that are in NAL's scope for establishment of ex-



photo: J. Swab

Among other Gift & Exchange Unit technicians are (L-R) Patti Wheeler, Mike Chisley, Jeff Maier, and Richard Joy.



photos: J. Swab

(Above) Gift & Exchange Unit Leader Rae Dubois selects materials from gifts for the collection, while (below) Technician Patsy Graves packs surplus NAL and gift serials to send to cooperating libraries in the Baltic republics.



perimental cataloging records. Members of the Branch are also involved in reviewing titles for digitization by NAL, and developing procedures for selecting, acquiring, accessing, and processing information contained in a variety of electronic formats. As we move toward the twenty-first century, the staff of NAL's Acquisitions & Serials Branch is committed to being on the forefront of developing appropriate procedures for collecting and accessing agricultural information regardless of format.

For additional information contact:

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Head, Monographic Acquisitions and Fiscal Units

Acquisitions & Serials Branch, Room 002

National Agricultural Library, USDA

10301 Baltimore Boulevard

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TDD/TTY: (301) 504-6856

FAX: (301) 504-5243

Internet: kdebus@nalusda.gov

NAL Ships Surplus Materials to Central Europe

The National Agricultural Library is finding a good use for surplus U.S. agricultural journals and books. The library is shipping the materials overseas to help farmers and agricultural scientists in Central Europe. In the last two years, nearly 300 boxes of surplus agricultural literature provided to NAL by U.S. scientists nationwide have been sent to agricultural libraries in Hungary, Poland, Romania, the Czech Republic, and Slovakia. Most recently, NAL's Exchange and Gift unit, headed by Rae Dubois, shipped 219 boxes to Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. The library expects to ship between 300 and 400 more boxes to the Baltic Republics by October 1994.

NAL is being aided in this effort by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, USDA's Agricultural Research Service, and the International Cooperation and Development organization in USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service.

According to NAL Acting Director Pamela André, this program came about as a result of the reorganization of Central European countries that took place several years ago. "NAL saw the changes that occurred in Central Europe in 1991 as an opportunity to forge new ties with agricultural librarians in those countries and to exchange agricultural information," she said. "We have held a number of meetings here and in Central Europe and learned of the keen need for U.S. agricultural research literature in these countries. Basically, they can use anything we can give them."

Eager to take advantage of this opportunity, NAL began looking for help on this program from U.S. and international organizations. "The Food and Agriculture Organization and USDA International Cooperation and Development came up with funds to help pay for the shipping," André said, "while the Agricultural Research Service requested that research scientists nationwide send us any surplus journals and books."

ARS scientists sent thousands of items such as personal collections of the *Agronomy Journal*, the *Journal of Animal Science*, and

the *Journal of Dairy Science* to NAL. "The scientists were pleased to be able to recycle the research literature they no longer needed," André said. And the Central Europeans were pleased too. NAL has received expressions of thanks in letters from several directors of agricultural libraries assisted by the effort.

Following up on this new cooperation with Central Europe, NAL arranged for two Central European agricultural librarians to spend several weeks this past fall observing NAL operations in Beltsville, Maryland. "It's through cooperation like this that the countries of the world can help each other to improve agricultural output and maybe one day end hunger once and for all," André said.

For additional information contact Rae Dubois at:

Telephone: (301) 504-5210; TDD/TTY: (301) 504-6856;

FAX: (301) 504-5243; Internet: rdubois@nalusda.gov

Or write to Ms. Dubois at:

National Agricultural Library, USDA

Acquisitions/Serials Branch

Exchange & Gift, Room 002

10301 Baltimore Boulevard

Beltsville, MD 20705-2351

— Brian Norris

and locating other convenient access points is necessary to enable remote users to search effectively. A system that supports diverse end user needs ought to enable both powerful command searching as well as menu-driven, interactive searching, with a sliding level of assistance in search strategy formation, and ready-reference subject information. Further suggestions are made that are aimed at improving search strategy formulation, choice of entry vocabulary, and exploitation of the rich indexing that exists in AGRICOLA.

The report also emphasizes transferring into an Internet-accessible form the rich support and instructional materials that have been developed by NAL professionals to assist users in locating agricultural information resources. The availability of AGRICOLA and this supportive information can serve as an innovative example of a dynamic national agricultural end user information system. In this manner, NAL could effectively use the Internet to provide access to its diverse and distributed resources much as the institution has encouraged specialized development of agricultural resources.

A copy of *AGRICOLA Across the Internet—User Needs* may be downloaded via the Internet from the NAL gopher:

<gopher.nalusda.gov>

For additional information contact Claudia Weston at:

Telephone: (301) 504-6813

TDD/TTY: (301) 504-6856

FAX: (301) 504-7473

Internet: cweston@nalusda.gov

Or write to:

Claudia Weston

Database Administration Branch

Room 003

National Agricultural Library, USDA

10301 Baltimore Boulevard

Beltsville, MD 20705-2351



AGRICOLA Across the Internet — User Needs

by Beth A. Sandore

Assistant Automated Services Librarian

and Associate Professor of Library Administration

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

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The report, *AGRICOLA Across the Internet—User Needs*, was prepared by Beth Sandore, a Visiting Scholar from the University of Illinois Library at Urbana-Champaign, during her stay at the National Agricultural Library in March. The report focuses on end user considerations for making NAL's bibliographic database AGRICOLA (*AGRICultural OnLine Access*) available from the National Agricultural Library through the Internet. The study identifies target groups, examines the content and indexing practices of AGRICOLA as they relate to end user searching, analyzes the functionality of current systems that provide access to AGRICOLA, and suggests important features and functions that ought to be included in an Internet-accessible front-end to this specialized agricultural information database.

After nearly a quarter of a century of AGRICOLA use, government researchers, academics, and library and information professionals are the current primary user clientele. User searching strengths and needs vary greatly across these groups. At the same time, changes in indexing practice over time pose certain retrieval challenges to end users. In the case of a database like AGRICOLA, with specialized vocabulary and non-transparent relationships between scientific and common terms, some assistance in choosing subject terms



photo: J. Swab

Beth Sandore

Sandore Completes Study for NAL

Beth A. Sandore, Assistant Automated Services Librarian and Associate Professor of Library Administration at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, spent the month of March at NAL as a visiting scholar in the library's Information Systems Division, studying end user needs for access to AGRICOLA through the Internet. On May 19, she returned to NAL to present her final report, *AGRICOLA Across the Internet—User Needs*, to an assembly of interested NAL staff and to NAL managers. A summary of the report appears on the preceding page of this issue of *ALIN*.

In her position at the University of Illinois, Sandore assists in managing the systems development and support and technical processing department. Both her daily responsibilities and her research focus on the development and evaluation of user-oriented online systems. Her recent research includes an evaluation of a software interface to facilitate end user searching of commercial journal citation databases at the University of Illinois. Her stay at NAL was during a portion of her sabbatical leave. Sandore is active in ALA and LITA.

Plant Genome Database Available on Internet

The Plant Genome Database (PGD) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture is now available over the Internet from the National Agricultural Library. PGD contains data for important crop species including maize, soybean, small grains (wheat, barley, oats), rice, and tomato. It also contains data on "Arabidopsis," an organism that has served as a model for plant genetic research.

PGD managers expect to expand the database, adding data on other crop species as it becomes available. "Information in PGD centers around genetic maps and loci," said Doug Bigwood, PGD manager. "However, there is also data on probes, clones, references, researchers, and germ-plasm."

Bigwood said that the database is actually a variety of information products: PGD/gopher—a gopher server for plain text retrieval; PGD/WWW—a World Wide Web server for hypertext retrieval and navigating through the database; and PGD/ftp—in which data is available by anonymous file transfer protocol. A CD-ROM version of the database has been developed and will be released in the near future.

Bigwood offered the following guidance for accessing the database via the Internet:

- Use "probe.nalusda.gov" port 70 to access the gopher form of the database.
- To access the WWW form: the URL is "http://probe.nalusda.gov:8000/index.html"
- For FTP: ftp to "probe.nalusda.gov." Login with "anonymous" and an e-mail address as the password. Consult the "README" file for additional information.

According to Dr. Susan McCarthy, coordinator of NAL's Plant Genome Data and Information Center

(PGDIC), use of the database has been heavy.

"In little over one year of operation there have been almost 80,000 accesses of the database," Dr. McCarthy said. "Users have included crop breeders, geneticists, and researchers, both in the U.S. and overseas. A new user group consists of educators who take the database into their classrooms."

More information about the USDA Plant Genome Project and the PGD products can be obtained by sending electronic mail to "pgenome@nalusda.gov" or by calling NAL's Plant Genome Data and Information Center at (301) 504-6613 [TDD/TTY: (301) 504-6856]; FAX: (301) 504-7098.

Or write to:

National Agricultural Library, USDA
Plant Genome Data and Information
Center, 4th Floor
10301 Baltimore Boulevard
Beltsville, MD 20705-2351

— Brian Norris

Computerized Finder System Available for Articles on Engineering in Agriculture

A computerized index of all technical articles appearing in ASAE periodicals from 1950 through 1993—along with searching software—is available without charge from ASAE Fellow W.J. Chancellor (BIOAGENG@UC-DAVIS.EDU).

In addition to articles published in ASAE periodicals, articles in *Canadian Agricultural Engineering* (1963-93), *Journal of Agricultural Engineering Research* (1956-93), *Agricultural Mechanization in Asia, Africa and Latin America* (1971-93), *Grundlagen der Landtechnik / Landtechnik* (1965-93), *Transactions of the Chinese Society of Agricultural Machinery* (1984-93), *Journal of the Japanese Society for Agricultural Machinery* (1985-93), and the *International Agricultural Engineering Journal* (1992-93) are included in the index system.

Those wishing a copy for IBM-compatible personal computers may send one formatted 1.44 Mbyte 3 1/2-inch diskette to:

*W.J. Chancellor
Biological and Agricultural
Engineering Department
University of California
Davis, CA 95616-5294*

The material will be copied to the diskette and the diskette returned to the sender.

A system developed by Professor Rollin Strohman of California Polytechnic State University for the Macintosh computer using HyperCard may also be obtained later in the year from Chancellor (two 1.44 Mbyte 3 1/2-inch diskettes required).

Those wishing to use INTERNET to obtain the IBM-compatible system may download AE-INDEX.EXE, a self-extracting (1.3 Mbyte) compressed file, by using File Transfer Protocol (FTP) from POPPY.ENGR.UCDAVIS.EDU (or 128.120.65.75 for those wishing to use numeric characters), User = anonymous, Password = guest. Before "getting" AE-INDEX.EXE by FTP, first type: binary [enter]. Placing AE-INDEX.EXE by itself in a separate subdirectory and typing: AE-INDEX [enter] will produce a set of compressed files. Place these files (excluding AE-INDEX.EXE) on a 1.4 Mbyte floppy diskette. Instructions for hard disk use or for searching from the floppy disk are contained in README.TXT on the floppy diskette.

Those who have access to INTERNET may search an expanded Agricultural Engineering database by connecting to POPPY.ENGR.UCDAVIS.EDU (128.120.65.75) and when the prompt, "Username" appears, type: SEARCH [enter]. No password is required and there is no charge.

If additional information is needed, please contact:

*Ted Sibia
Head, Bio/Ag Department
Shields Library
University of California
Davis, CA 95616-5292*

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Internet:

TSSIBIA@UCDAVIS.EDU

— contributed to ALIN by Ted Sibia

UAT: Intensive Technical Session

Monique Bonnichon, a representative of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and AGROVOC specialist, spent the week of June 20-24 working intensively at NAL with Martha Hood, Head, and the entire Thesaurus Management Section on the classification of the Social Sciences section of the AGROVOC Thesaurus. Classification of AGROVOC and the CAB Thesaurus is the agreed-upon next step in creating the Unified Agricultural Thesaurus (UAT).

The working group took over NAL's Ground Floor Conference Room for the entire week, moving in a 486 com-

puter (affectionately named THEO), a CD-ROM tower, two booktrucks of reference materials, and various thesauri too numerous to mention. Consulting all of this information was necessary to ensure that all the descriptors: 1) were being used as they are in the literature of the field, 2) were arranged properly in the classification, and 3) would not cause problems for indexers or users of AGRIS, the FAO database. Some terms were changed, a few added, and others suggested for deletion as too vague, confusing, or too close in meaning to other descriptors. The result is a coherent, well documented, classification of AGROVOC terms that can be easily compared to CAB thesaurus terms in the same subject areas.

Monday morning was devoted to biological structure and form as a warm-up for tougher things to come, but virtually all the rest of the week was devoted to the social sciences, with economics taking almost three days.

There have been four previous meetings of the UAT Classification Working Group, but the social sciences, a weighty subject, tended to sink to the bottom of the agenda. The June meeting was the first to concentrate a major effort on this important though slightly peripheral area.

— Judith Torgerson



photo: J. Swab

Working on the UAT are (L-R): Carol Sowers, Deana Parks, Monique Bonnichon (of FAO), Martha Hood, Shirley Edwards (Head, Indexing Branch), Lori Starr, and Judy Torgerson.

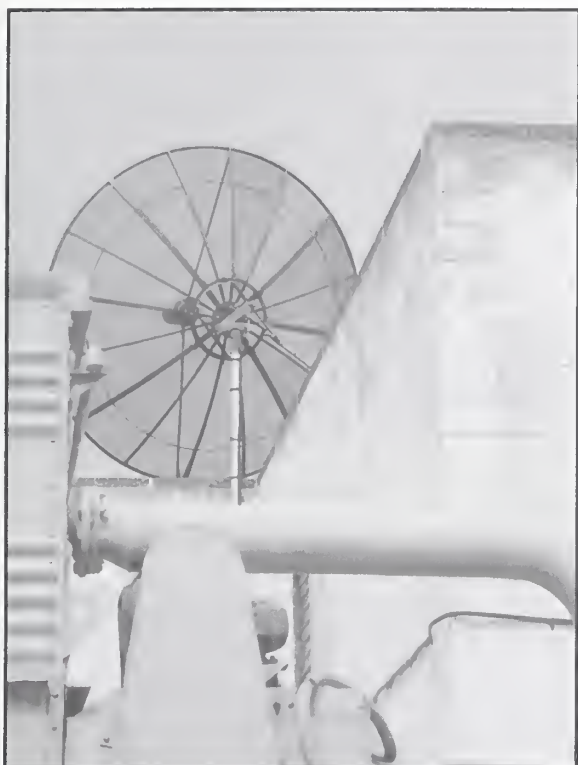


photo: J. Swab

NAL's new satellite dish on the tower roof.

NAL Satellite Downlink System Installed

Thirteen years ago several of us participated in a couple of "blue sky" sessions at NAL where we sat around and mused about what we thought NAL would be like ten years down the road. The most enduring image I have of those sessions is one of a matching 16-story tower being built and satellite dishes on the lawn. While most of us have given up on the idea of "The Twin Towers of NAL," we do at last have a satellite dish; albeit not as a lawn ornament but atop the single tower.

This downlink system, installed in June, will allow NAL to receive USDA training and other communications and also give us the ability to receive educational broadcasts from other government agencies and universities as well as to participate in professional videoconferences. The system will provide a medium for mandated federal training in topics such as Ethics, Prevention of Sexual Harassment, AIDS in the Workplace, and Equal Employment Opportunities/Civil Rights.

The ten-foot satellite dish is wired to sixteen conference rooms and other locations throughout the NAL building. This will allow NAL to receive programming from approximately 26 satellites positioned in geostationary orbit, which provide 54,000 hours of educational programming each year over both C-Band and Ku-Band.

—Gary McCone

Agricultural Calendar Listings in ALF

by Karl Schneider
Librarian; ALF Systems Operator
Reference & User Services Branch

In the past, information about agricultural and related subject meetings, conferences, conventions, congresses, fairs and expositions, symposia, seminars, workshops, courses, and similar events have been posted on ALF (Agricultural Library Forum), NAL's electronic bulletin board, in a variety of places. A new subboard, called DATES, has been created and combines previously scattered listings in one place. However, readers who have been accessing specific subject subboards, bulletins, and newsletters in ALF to access this calendar information will still be able to use the subject approach, since the former access methods remain.

General and subject specific calendars, prepared by USDA Office of Public Affairs and staff of various NAL Information Centers, are now listed as Bulletins in the DATES subboard and at the same time in the various subboards related to information centers. This dual listing provides two methods of access. Most events listed include the dates of the event, its formal name, the names of sponsors, location of the event, and contact names, addresses, and communications numbers. Additional information such as themes, concurrent educational or special programs, speakers names, etc., may also be included.

Subjects now available include a general agriculture calendar, aquaculture dates, rural and rural health events, water quality meetings/calls for papers, water quality satellite broadcasts, sustainable agriculture meetings and shows, food and nutrition events, and biotechnology. Other subject-specific listings are expected to be added. Listings for agricultural trade and marketing, animal welfare, and plant genome are still included in the newsletters for these subjects (see box, "Newsletters in ALF Containing Additional Dates," on the following page of *ALIN*).

Access to these lists online is available to callers who J)oin the DATES subboard. To do this, type J from the M)ain prompt, or from any Subboard M)ain prompt. Then type DATES. Then enter B to list Bulletins; and then enter the number for the desired item selected from the list presented (see box showing DATES menu screen on the following page of *ALIN*).

Once viewing a specific DATES Bulletin, the ALF bulletin board system (bbs) allows callers to use the J)ump command (enter J) to locate a specific date, place name, or other text string. Help is available by use of the H)elp command. If download of the entire text of specific DATES bulletins is desired, the file may be accessed by moving to the F)iles subsystem (type F from M)ain prompt), enter D for D)ownload, then enter "DATESBnn." as the filename to download. The "nn" in the filename is the number of the Bulletin of interest. The PERIOD (":") after the filename is required, to let ALF know

that the file *has no extension*.

Callers with modems may access ALF through direct dial to 301/504-6510, -5111, -5496, or -5497. New numbers, 504-7014, and -7015, will be available soon with very high-speed modems attached, to allow up to 28.8 Kbaud connections. Users must first register on ALF to get full system access.

ALF Access Via INTERNET

NAL's ALF bulletin board system is now accessible by Internet users via Telnet to FedWorld, the NTIS (Department of Commerce) bulletin board and gateway system. Use the command:
telnet fedworld.gov or **telnet 192.239.92.201**
 New FedWorld callers must first register on the FedWorld bulletin board system.

Newsletters in ALF Containing Additional Dates

AWFNWS#.# (where # = vol. + no.) In Animal directory.
Animal Welfare Information Center Newsletter
PROBE#.# (where # = vol. + no.) In General directory.
Probe is the newsletter of the Plant Genome Data and Information Center.
VIGN####.TXT (where #### = month + year) In General directory. *Vignettes* is the newsletter of the Agricultural Trade and Marketing Information Center.
AHN###.TXT (where # = vol. + no.) In General directory.
Agricultural History Newsletter, published by the Agricultural History Section of USDA's Economic Research Service, Washington, D.C.

To link to ALF after registration, follow menu options. To use the Gateway choose **D** from the Main menu, then choose **D** from the Gateway menu to link to a federal system, then enter **2** to connect to ALF.

After initial registration, commands may be stacked. Get to ALF from FedWorld's main menu by entry of: **D D 2 [enter key]**.

File transfer from/to ALF after telnet to FedWorld requires the use of either Kermit (for command or compressed files) or ascii (for text-only files). Files will transfer from ALF to your Internet access files area, or to your pc if you linked to your Internet host through a modem.

Dial-up to access FedWorld is also available, via 703/321-8020.

For technical assistance with FedWorld, call 703/487-4608. The FedWorld system runs on a bbs software platform called the Major bbs, by Galacticom. More than sixty incoming lines are available.

Additional Information About the ALF system.

ALF is a bulletin board system running on RBBS-PC, version 17.4a. Connect using No parity, 8 data bits, one stop bit, full duplex. No emulation is required (specify None, ASCII, or TTY, or ANSI-bbs, etc.) Commands are entered by single letters, selected from the menus on each screen. Turbokey may be selected to preclude the need for the carriage return [enter] key

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun D A T E S Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec
1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 / Calendar Bulletins \ Mon Tue Wed Thr Fri Sat

Number	SUBJECT (source information)	DATE
1	Agriculture Datebook - various subject events (USDA Office of Public Affairs)	4/94
2	Aquaculture meetings, shows, conferences, events (NAL Aquaculture Information Center)	6/94
3	Rural Conferences (NAL Rural Information Center)	7/94
4	Rural Health Conferences (NAL Rural Information Center Health Service)	7/94
5	Water Quality Meetings, Conferences, & Calls for Papers (NAL Water Quality Information Center)	6/94
6	Water Quality Satellite Broadcasts (NAL Water Quality Information Center)	6/94
7	Sustainable Agriculture meetings, events, shows, etc. (NAL Alternative Farming Systems Information Center)	6/94
8	Food and Nutrition meetings, events, shows (NAL Food and Nutrition Information Center)	6/94
9	Biotechnology meetings (NAL Biotechnology Information Center)	7/94

For FILE DOWNLOAD, go to F)iles subsystem, enter **D**, then enter "DATESBn.", where "n" is the number for the Bulletin desired, and period "." is required. All files are ASCII.

for many commands.

There are no usage charges or registration costs, except the telephone link. Users must enter their City and State, and create their own password. Callers are asked to specify their preferences for Graphics, Highlighting, and Default File Transfer Protocol. N) or N)one is recommended as the answer for all three questions.

A users guide to ALF is available online, by download of the file ALFGUIDE.TXT. The M)ain B)ulletins, J)oin conference(s) list, and any F)iles categories of interest are all recommended for viewing by new

users. Karl Schneider is the Systems Operator (SYSOP); he may be reached via the bbs, or by voice telephone at: (301) 504-5113.

To obtain more information about ALF or to contact the ALF SYSOP, call Karl Schneider at:

Phone: (301) 504-5113

TDD/TTY: (301) 504-6856

Internet: kschnid@nalusda.gov

Fax: (301) 504-7098.

Or write to:

Karl Schneider, ALF SYSOP

Reference & User Services Branch,

Room 100

National Agricultural Library, USDA

10301 Baltimore Boulevard

Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2351

LISTSERV@DEWEY.LIB.NCSU.EDU and send a message that consists of a single-line command: SUBSCRIBE USAIN-L JOHN DOE substituting your own name. For more information about how LISERV works, send a message to LISERV@DEWEY.LIB.NCSU.EDU containing the single word HELP and a message explaining the various features will be sent to you.

— Robyn Frank



photo: J. Swab

Irwin Weintraub leads new Social Issues Interest Group.

Social Issues Interest Group at USAIN

A new interest group has been established at USAIN. The Social Issues Interest Group is concerned with issues affecting agriculture and the dissemination of agricultural information.

The purpose of the group is to investigate social issues involving agriculture and rural life to present to the USAIN membership at the annual meetings and to sponsor a session at the meetings addressing contemporary issues of concern to agricultural information professionals.

For example, at the meeting in Auburn in 1993, an informative session



USAIN Update

The U.S. Agricultural Information Network held a successful program meeting at Auburn University in October 1993 that focussed on rural information [Reported in *ALIN*, Vol. 20 Nos. 1-3, pp. 12-23, January-March 1994]. The next program meeting will be held April 26-29, 1995 in Lexington, Kentucky. Toni Powell, Head of the Agriculture Library at the University of Kentucky, is in charge of local arrangements.

USAIN has a new interest group on Social Issues. Topics of concern to the group may include censorship, barriers to information access, discrimination against information professionals who hold certain views, effects of fee-based services on low income users, ownership of information and copyright, and many other subjects. Irwin Weintraub, Agriculture Resource Librarian at Rutgers University, is the Chair of the Social Issues Interest Group. USAIN members wishing to join the group are

urged to contact him by e-mail at WEINTRAUB@ZODIAC.RUTGERS or phone (908) 932-3208. [See the following article.]

The National Preservation Program for Agricultural Literature was adopted by the Executive Council in 1993. Currently the National Preservation Program Steering Committee is being appointed. The Steering Committee will conduct a fundraising campaign among land-grant institutions and other agencies to fund the position of USAIN National Preservation Program Coordinator. Copies of the program have been distributed to USAIN members. A copy may also be obtained by contacting Martha Alexander, Director of Libraries, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65201-5149 or MULIBMSA@MIZZOU1.MISSOURI.EDU.

The level of activity on the USAIN listserv is increasing daily. Members who have not yet subscribed are encouraged to do so. To subscribe to USAIN-L, send an e-mail message to

on social issues presented speakers covering Black farmers in the U.S. and Alabama, environmental racism and sustainable agriculture. That session was given high ratings by conference attendees.

The Social Issues Interest Group will be actively involved in planning a session for the 1995 meeting at the University of Kentucky.

USAIN members who would like to join the group and participate in its activities are encouraged to join. Please send me your name, address and telephone number, information about

where you work and your e-mail address.

I hope to hear from all interested USAIN members and look forward to an active and dynamic interest group.

Irwin Weintraub

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Weintraub@zodiac.rutgers.edu

—Irwin Weintraub

found. This service is the Animal Welfare Information Center (AWIC).

As with any regulatory change, there was confusion within the research community over exactly what researchers were required to do in order to be in compliance with the new regulations. In particular was the requirement that the "principal investigator has considered alternatives to procedures that may cause more than momentary or slight pain or distress to the animals, and has provided a written narrative description of the methods and sources, e.g., the Animal Welfare Information Center, used to determine that alternatives were not available...." This written narrative has been interpreted to mean that a search of the literature for alternatives has been conducted.

It has been AWIC's experience that many people within the regulated community are confused over just what is an "alternative" and what is an effective method of searching the literature to show compliance with the law. To help meet the needs of our patrons and to alleviate some of the uncertainty, the staff of AWIC developed a workshop on "Meeting the Information Requirements of the Animal Welfare Act." Since its inception in late 1991, the workshop has evolved into its present format based upon the feedback we received from earlier participants. The workshop is organized around a view of



**Animal
Welfare**

Meeting the Information Requirements of the Animal Welfare Act

by Tim Allen

Technical Information Specialist
Animal Welfare Information Center,
National Agricultural Library

In 1985, with the passage of the Food Security Act, Congress let it be known that it was deeply concerned with the welfare of animals used in biomedical research, testing, and teaching. One of the bills attached to the act, the *Improved Standards for Laboratory Animals Act*, set much more rigorous husbandry standards, provided for the psychological well-being of non-human primates used in research, set standards for the exercise and socialization of research dogs, and required researchers to look for alternatives to the use of animals in experiments that were painful or distressful to the animal subjects. Because of this provision, Congress authorized the Secretary of

Agriculture to establish an information service at the National Agricultural Library to provide information pertinent to employee training, to prevent unintended duplication of animal experimentation, to reduce or replace animals used in painful experiments, or on refined methods to minimize pain to animals when no other model can be



photo: J. Swab

Note the contrast between this early AWIC workshop in a small room around a large table and the recent one on the next page.

the law, the "alternatives concept," information and database resources, developing search strategies, and, finally, hands-on searching experience using DIALOG.

The workshop is a two-day discussion/class held at the National Agricultural Library in Beltsville, Maryland. Because it is important that people have a proper perspective for why the regulations exist, the class begins with an overview of animal protection statutes in the United States and provides a historical background for the development of the current Animal Welfare Act regulations. This easily leads into a general discussion of the various aspects of the Animal Welfare Act with emphasis placed on the information requirements for both investigators and Animal Care and Use Committees. An important part of this discussion is lead by a representative from the USDA's Regulatory Enforcement and Animal Care staff.

The "alternatives concept" regarding animal use was eloquently described by W.M.S. Russell and R.L. Burch in their 1959 book *The Principles of Humane Experimental Technique*. As with much classical scientific writing, it took almost 20 years for the scientific community to recognize the

profound implications of their work. However, the principles espoused—reduction of animals used in experiments, refined techniques to minimize pain, and replacement with non-animal models where applicable—are the basis for the current alternatives movement within the scientific community. It is also the concept taught in the AWIC workshop.

The remainder of the class is devoted to a comprehensive look at organizational and database resources for information retrieval. Many people are unaware of the scope of electronic resources, such as, Medline, EmBase, Biosis Previews, listservs on the Internet, etc., available to assist them in finding information. To that end, our discussion includes a look at more than 30 databases that we have found to be useful sources for possible alternatives. We also look at AWIC, NAL, and other groups that can provide information.

Because searching the literature for alternatives is different from performing a typical scientific literature search, we take a long look at developing search strategies to maximize information retrieval. Finally, the participants are provided with training passwords for Dialog and are provided the opportunity to go on-line and locate informa-

tion for questions that they bring from their institutions.

The response to the workshop has been overwhelmingly positive, and will continue to be scheduled as needed. Accordingly, AWIC has scheduled 3 additional workshops in the remainder of 1994, the first two of which are already full, June 23-24 and September 22-23. The third on December 8-9 still has openings. In addition, AWIC will be presenting an abbreviated version of the class at the Tri-Branch Meeting of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science in Philadelphia on June 6th as well as at the Special Libraries Association meeting in Atlanta on June 13th. Both classes have been certified for CEU credits.

Persons desiring additional information about the workshops please contact AWIC at Tel: (301) 504-6212, TTY: (301) 504-6856, or Fax: (301) 504-6409. Our Internet address is: @CENTER = awic@nalusda.gov

Or write to:

Animal Welfare Information Center
National Agricultural Library, USDA
5th Floor
10301 Baltimore Boulevard
Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2351



photo: J. Swab

D'Anna Berry (standing) conducts a session of an AWIC workshop in June. It was one of the first activities in NAL's new training room on the 14th floor. Each participant has a computer to use.



**Food &
Nutrition**

Get the "Nutrition Facts"

Gina McNeal, Coordinator, FDA/
USDA Food Labeling Education
Information Center, Food and
Nutrition Information Center, NAL

A free brochure from the Food and Drug Administration can help consumers use the new food label to choose healthy foods. This new label, under the heading "Nutrition Facts," already appears on many foods in the grocery store and soon will be on almost all the foods one buys. In a new

column called "% Daily Value," a person can find out if the food is high or low in a nutrient like fat or fiber, and compare similar products to see which one is more nutritious. Serving sizes are now more realistic, and words like "light," "low cholesterol," "good source of fiber," and "non-fat" have to meet government definitions. Consumers can now believe what they read on a food package, and can use the new label with confidence to choose healthy foods. Order the brochure, *An Introduction to the New Food Label*, by writing: Food and Drug Administration, Office of Public Affairs, 5600 Fishers Lane, HFE-88, Rockville, MD, 20857. Ask for FDA 94-2271.

McNeal Coordinates FDA/USDA Food Labeling Education Information Center

by Natalie Partridge
Food and Nutrition Information
Center, NAL

Have you looked at the nutrition information on the label of your favorite food lately? Have you read about the new food labels that will appear on almost all foods as of May 1994?

The Food and Nutrition Information Center (FNIC) at the National Agricultural Library is helping with efforts to educate the public about this new food label. Gina McNeal, Food Label-

ing Education Information Specialist, was hired in August 1992 to coordinate the activities of the FDA/USDA Food Labeling Education Information Center located at FNIC. This Center is a cooperative project between NAL, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS). FSIS and FDA fund this Center through an inter-agency agreement with NAL.

Gina McNeal came to FNIC with a

unique blend of skills and experiences that made her an ideal candidate for this position. She has a B.A. in English from the University of Georgia and worked for several years with databases in the publishing industry. She also worked at the American Diabetes Association New York Downstate Affiliate in Manhattan as the Director of Public Information. Prior to her work at FNIC, McNeal spent three years as a chef at Boyajian Pastries in Boston and Marvelous Market in Washington, DC. Her publishing, public relations, and food experiences all have helped her with this job. Gina McNeal believes that her work with information requests and a quarterly newsletter at the American Diabetes Association as well as her work with databases in the publishing industry helped her meet the challenge of starting a new information center.

The goals of the FDA/USDA Food Labeling Education Information Center are to build a database of educational materials about the new food label, help educators and information professionals locate these materials, and facilitate cooperative projects between groups. When asked about the challenges of her new position, McNeal replied "I had to get used to a library environment and become familiar with the operations of a library.... I also had to give presentations which was something I hadn't done before." She also found it challenging to "work with three agencies and integrate the needs of all three."

During her first few months at FNIC, McNeal selected the Paradox

Consumer Hotlines for Labeling Information:

FDA's Seafood Hotline (seafood labeling); 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm EST, Monday through Friday; recorded messages and faxed publications 24 hours a day. Call 1-800-FDA-4010.

USDA's Meat and Poultry Hotline (meat and poultry labeling); 10:00 am - 4:00 pm EST, Monday through Friday; recorded messages 24 hours a day. Call 1-800-535-4555.

American Institute for Cancer Research's Nutrition Hotline (labeling with regard to diet and cancer); 8:30 am - 9:30 pm EST, Monday through Thursday, 8:30 am - 6:00 pm EST Friday. Call 1-800-843-8114. Ask for Nutrition Information.

The American Dietetic Association's National Center for Nutrition and Dietetics (general nutrition); 9:00 am - 4:00 pm CST, Monday through Friday. Recorded nutrition messages in English and Spanish 8:00 am - 8:00 pm CST, Monday through Friday. Call 1-800-366-1655.



photo: J. Swab

Gina McNeal

database management software and began to build the database of labeling education materials. The database includes a variety of educational materials which can be used to teach consumers or other professionals about the new food labels. The database now contains over 150 items. According to McNeal, the most unique item is a module for high school juniors that uses the new food label to teach math. The database also includes a giant milk carton that can be worn by a teacher and a software program that contains games and a place for creating one's own food label. The database also contains brochures, posters, videos, slides, and curriculum guides.

This database of labeling education materials is different from the AGRICOLA database since it is being used to track projects over time. Materials are added to the database when they are still in the planning stage. This allows McNeal to keep track of projects in progress and helps her link groups that want to work on similar projects. The database also lists materials such as brochures and posters, which are not listed in the AGRICOLA database and are not circulated. Many of the materials acquired for this database of labeling education materials are added to the AGRICOLA database and are available for loan from NAL. In fact, because of the demand

for the six minute FDA video, *Food Labels*, McNeal worked with NAL's Document Delivery and Cataloging Departments to add 24 copies to NAL's collection. The video circulated 95 times in 1993.

In addition to her work with the database, Gina McNeal manages the FOOD subboard on ALF, NAL's electronic bulletin board. She set up the subboard and continues to act as the systems operator for this section of ALF. She has also loaded FNIC publications, FDA and FSIS labeling publications, a calendar of food and nutrition conferences, and information about how to use FNIC into ALF. She said now the challenge is to "get people to be more willing to use resources on ALF."

McNeal also produces a semi-annual, eight-page update about labeling education activities, which is sent to a mailing list of over 1,000 interested professionals. The update includes information about new educational materials, groups looking for partners for projects, and strategies for how to teach consumers about the new label. When time permits, she also gives presentations about the Center at professional meetings.

Now that the Center is up and running, McNeal feels that the challenge will be to "keep people interested in contributing to the database. It has always been a challenge to get organizations to be proactive and let me know what they are doing." McNeal is also encouraging groups to fill the gaps where materials are needed in the library's collections. She says that more materials are needed for people from different ethnic groups and with specific health conditions.

Funding for the Center is expected through December 1995. Gina McNeal hopes to continue expanding the collection of labeling education materials so that educators will have access to the materials for many years. With regard to her experiences at FNIC, she said, "This is the best environment I have ever worked in. It is the most professional, most accomplished team of people I have ever worked with and a very comfortable place to be."



photo: J. Swab

Eileen Ferruggiaro

Food Service Educator Helps Child Nutrition Staffs Improve School Lunch

by Gina McNeal
Coordinator, FDA/USDA Food Labeling Education Information Center, FNIC, NAL

When Eileen Ferruggiaro was hired as the National Food Service Management Institute (NFSMI)'s Food Service Educator in August 1993, she was a perfect match for the job of helping USDA's Child Nutrition Program professionals improve their operations. "I like working with people and had been answering consumer inquiries at USDA's Meat and Poultry Hotline. I thought this would allow me to do more in-depth consultations. Also, I worked as a nutritionist for the Child and Adult Care Food Program [one of USDA's Child Nutrition Programs], so I have an understanding of the needs of Child Nutrition personnel. And I do have kids, so child nutrition is an interest."

Ferruggiaro works at NAL's Food and Nutrition Information Center (FNIC) through an agreement with the University of Mississippi, NFSMI's

home base. The mission of NFSMI is to help improve the quality and operation of child nutrition and related programs through research, education, training, and technology transfer. In addition to answering requests for information, Ferruggiario builds NAL's collection of food service management materials. "I keep track of what's new and available for Child Nutrition personnel. I identify gaps in NAL's collection; when issues come up, I find out what resources we have to meet them."

Another part of Ferruggiario's job at FNIC—serving as a reference nutritionist—draws on her academic experience in dietetics. The reference staff, which includes two other full-time nutritionists and one part-time nutritionist, research general food and nutrition topics for consumers, educators, and health professionals. "I'm a registered dietitian and have worked in clinical nutrition, which gives me the background to answer nutrition questions. Also, I did teach foods and nutrition and institutional management, and I recognize the needs of educators."

Ferruggiario earned a Bachelor of Science in Food and Nutrition at the College of St. Elizabeth in 1968, and went on to a dietetic internship at the University of Wisconsin. In 1971, she completed a Master of Science in Institutional Food Service Management at Rutgers University, and in 1982, a Doctor of Philosophy in Human Nutrition at Syracuse University. She has had a varied career in nutrition, working in therapeutic, administrative, public health, and academic settings, including the University of Maryland. As a home economics instructor at State University College at Oneonta, New York, from 1971 to 1973, she established the Institutional Food Service Program, developing a curriculum which won American Dietetic Association approval of the dietetics program.

Positions as Public Health Nutritionist for Fairfax County, Virginia's Childcare Nutrition Program and Technical Information Specialist for USDA's Meat and Poultry Hotline helped Ferruggiario fit quickly into the role of food service educator. New for her, however, was being employed by an organization far away from where she reports for work. "It is good to

work for a nationally recognized organization aimed at improving the Child Nutrition Program. But it has been a challenge to work for someone long distance and act as a liaison to FNIC." In the eight months she has worked this way, she has had two opportunities to meet her colleagues in Mississippi. Her most important contribution to the organization, she believes, "is to make more people know we're here and what we can do for them. Making contact with Food and Nutrition Service personnel is helpful and helps to promote the Institute."

Asked what she likes most about working at FNIC and NAL, Ferruggiario says, "I like libraries. I like being

on the pulse of what's happening in food and nutrition, and keeping updated on what's out there in the literature. I also think updating myself with computers is important. I do enjoy Internet and access to information, because I think that's the way libraries are going in the future."

Ferruggiario finds it convenient to work in Beltsville because it's close to her home in Burtonsville, where she is involved in a number of community activities. She is a Montgomery County 4-H volunteer in clothing and foods, a volunteer coordinator at Burtonsville Elementary School, and on the Board at Benjamin Banneker Middle School.



**Staff
Update**

Makuch Heads Water Quality Info Center

Joseph Makuch, coauthor of "NAL's Approach to Water Quality Issues," the lead article in this issue of *ALIN*, joined the staff of the National Agricultural Library as Coordinator of the Water Quality Information Center in June 1992. Makuch and staff provide traditional library and information services related to water quality as indicated in the article. Makuch coordinates NAL programs in this area and provides liaison with all of the USDA agencies having water quality programs and with national and international programs.

Makuch earned his Ph.D. at the Pennsylvania State University in Agricultural Education with an emphasis on instructional systems. From 1988 to 1991 he was a graduate assistant in the Agricultural and Biological Engineering Department at Penn State, designing computer-assisted instruction on water quality subjects. From



photo: J. Swab

Joseph Makuch

1991 until coming to NAL, he held a post-doctoral research appointment in agricultural and biological engineering, working on extension water quality programs and developing in-service training for extension agents in water quality.

From 1985 to 1988, Makuch worked on the Pennsylvania aspects of the Chesapeake Bay Program. He worked with the agricultural community regarding the connection between agricultural practices and water quality, showing ways to change those practices to improve groundwater—including drinking water—and the water that eventually flows into the Bay. He began his work in water quality in 1979 as the information and education coordinator at the Hartford [Connecticut] County Soil and Water Conservation District.

Makuch also earned his Masters in forest resources at Penn State, and his B.S. in natural resource conservation at the University of Connecticut. He has authored and co-authored journal articles, extension circulars, fact sheets, and other publications on water quality. He has also produced/co-produced videotapes, slide sets, exhibits, and computer-assisted instruction on water quality.

A native of Connecticut, Makuch enjoys exploring the outdoors and cultural interests of the D.C. area with his wife, Yvonne. They live in Laurel.

Cabriac Helps WQIC and BIC

Dan Cabriac, who joined the NAL staff in June 1992 as a graduate assistant through a cooperative agreement with the University of Maryland, splits



photo: J. Swab

Dan Cabriac

his time at NAL between WQIC and BIC (Biotechnology Information Center). In May 1994 he received his Master of Library Science degree from the University of Maryland. He had previously taught science in private and public schools for 7 years. A "fifth generation New Orleanian," Cabirac said his "professional goal is to become an expert in the use of the Internet in libraries."

—Joseph N. Swab

Debus Heads Acquisitions Units

Karl Debus, the author of the article "Acquisitions at the National Agricultural Library" in this issue of *ALIN*, recently celebrated his third anniversary at NAL. Since June of 1991 Debus has worked as the Head of the Monographic Acquisitions and Fiscal Units in the Acquisitions and Serials Branch. Debus' duties include supervising nine technicians; five order technicians who handle the daily processing of the library's monographic orders, and four fiscal technicians, responsible for the receipt and payment of all books, continuation titles, and invoices (books and journals) processed at NAL. In addition, Debus' unit is responsible for the input of all in-process monographic records to ISIS, whether they are received as purchases or gifts.

One of Debus' primary interests is the appropriate use of technology for acquisitions functions. Since 1991 he has been instrumental in moving the Library's fiscal files from an outdated paper system to Lotus 1-2-3, has assisted in the development of a dBASEIV Plus database to track continuation orders, and has implemented electronic ordering of monographs. He is the primary person responsible for managing the daily operations of the Library's VTLS Acquisitions and Fund Accounting System (AFAS). In 1991 his unit beta tested a new release of AFAS for VTLS.

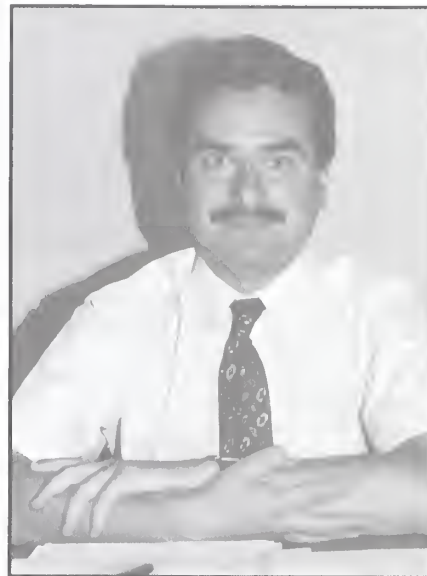


photo: J. Swab

Karl Debus

Debus and his staff spend a considerable amount of their work hours reporting systems problems and enhancement requests to VTLS. For his efforts in improving the VTLS AFAS, Debus was appointed Chair of the VTLS Users Group Committee on the Acquisitions and Fund Accounting System. He has also recently been appointed to serve on the American Library Association's ALCTS Technology for Acquisitions Committee.

Since coming to NAL Debus has served on several committees of importance to the library, including the ISIS Implementation Team, the Vision Committee of the NAL Strategic Planning Process, and the Electronic Information Initiative Implementation Team.

Prior to his arrival at NAL, Debus worked for two years as an Acquisitions Librarian for the National Library of Medicine's Serial Records Section. Previous to working at NLM, he worked as the Hazardous Waste Reference Librarian for the Headquarters Library of the Environmental Protection Agency. Debus holds a Bachelor's degree in History and Government from Cornell University, a Master's Degree in Regional Planning from Cornell, and a Master's Degree in Library Science from the University of Maryland. He resides in Takoma Park, MD.

Reminiscences on a Journey From Cuba to the United States

Presented at the NAL/ARS Program
For National Women's History Month, March 3, 1994

by Idalia P. Acosta
Head, Cataloging Branch, NAL

First of all I would like to thank Della Eley and Mary Silva, Federal Women Program Managers for ARS and NAL for providing me this opportunity of sharing with you my adventures and experiences related to my family's arriving and settling in this country.

I am very proud of participating in this celebration since I have always been very interested in equal opportunities for minorities of all kinds and especially for women. For a woman of my generation growing up in a cultural environment such as the ones in Cuba and other Latin American countries, I can consider myself a very liberated person.

When the Castro revolution started in Cuba the First of January of 1959, my husband and I were comfortably established in Havana with a very nice new home, three small children, and excellent jobs teaching Physics, Chemistry, and Mathematics at the University of Villanueva, a Catholic institution that was administered by the same Augustinian priests that own Villanova University among other institutions in the United States. We also taught the same subjects at preparatory schools run by the government. Judging by American standards, we could consider ourselves a middle class professional family.

Soon after the seizure of power by the revolution, we realized that our survival was going to be very difficult under the new conditions. One of the first measures of the revolution was to close the university where we taught; it had been kept open when all the official universities had been closed because of student protests against the Batista regime prior to the revolution. This action was taken very soon after Castro took power, and the law that promulgated it was known as Law #11. We



photo: J. Swab

Idalia Acosta

could consider ourselves very fortunate that the law was reversed by the Castro government after four months. As far as I know, it was the only law of the first days of the revolution that was reversed.

The first months of the revolution were times of confusion and contradictions. While the government was leaning more and more toward the USSR and the Communists, Castro, using his charisma and power of persuasion, kept the people deceived, saying things like: "Some people are saying that we are Communists, but that is not true. Our revolution is not red but green as our royal palms." He fooled the Cuban people, the Catholic hierarchy, the Jesuits, everybody....

Like many others, we started to see the real picture very soon, and we did not have to wait very long to make our decision to leave the country. Rumors started to run that children of school age were going to be sent away from their parents to be educated at special centers where political indoctrination

was going to be a part of the curriculum. My husband and I considered that that was the last drop in the bucket.

Through our connections with the administrators of the University, my husband obtained a scholarship to study in an American institution, and, because we had friends already settled in this area, he chose Catholic University in Washington. We stayed here all of the summer of 1960. The purpose for accepting this scholarship was twofold: the prestige that it brought was good; but in addition we thought that making contacts with the University here was also important for us. As it was, when the scholarship was completed, Professor Cowan of the Physics Department offered my husband a research professorship. We went back to Cuba to start the academic year at the University and also to organize all our affairs with the purpose of leaving them in order in case the invasion that, at the time was considered a sure thing, didn't come or failed, we would be able to come back to the United States under the best possible conditions.

But, at our return, things looked pretty bleak: my husband was detained for four hours in the military police quarters of the airport, and we started to realize that the situation was worse than what we had thought. The next day we went to the American Embassy to try to get our visitors' visas, and the salutation of the Cultural Attaché at the Embassy was: "Are you stupid? What are you doing here? I am leaving tomorrow, and we have orders to close this place as soon as possible!" With that my husband decided to leave as soon as possible. With the assistance of Dr. Cowan, who sent him a telegram requesting his presence at the University to complete the project he started in the summer, he could leave on November 18.

After we knew that he had a real job at Catholic University, I came with the three children on December 3rd. Our

departure was not smooth at all. As we were waiting in the airport the military police came calling my name, and they took me to their headquarters. There two women stripped me of all of my clothes, canvassed my purse and the books that I had in my hands, and, not finding anything after more than an hour, let me go.

So, finally with my three children, two suitcases of clothes, and \$5.00 in my purse, I arrived in Miami. Of course, the first thing I did was to apply to the immigration office for political asylum.

We contacted Catholic Charities with a letter from the Rector of the University of Villanueva, and they gave us \$500.00 as a loan from the Augustinian priests. With part of that money we bought an old Plymouth in such a condition that the salesman told us he would be praying for us because he didn't think the car would make it to Washington. But it did it!

Our friends in Washington lent us some money to rent a small apartment in Mount Rainier where I spent my days listening to the radio trying to open my ears to the English language.

One day during the summer of 1961 I heard through a professor of chemistry at Catholic University that they were looking for an instructor of calculus and chemistry at Immaculata College in uptown Washington; I went for an interview with no papers in my hands and requested the job; I don't know who was more courageous, myself or the President of the College, Sister Theresa Aloysius, who gave me the job. In the beginning I had to spend 6 and 7 hours to prepare one hour of class, repeating and repeating the words that were more difficult for me to pronounce.

My small apartment in Mount Rainier became a small American refuge for scores of my former students and friends that started coming from Cuba after the Bay of Pigs fiasco. They came to stay with us until they found a job and a place to live. On one occasion I remember having six children of a couple very close to us, sleeping on the floor of our living room. One of those kids was "Xavier Suarez," whom you might have heard of or seen on TV: he was the mayor of Miami for six years until this January.

I taught at Immaculata for 12 years

and became very tired of the lack of interest of the students (that was in the famous late sixties and seventies); so I decided to go back to research. I got a post-doctoral to do research at Catholic University while on a sabbatical from Immaculata. After one year I decided that research was not good for old people, and, having lived in the library of the university for almost half of the time that I was there, I decided to try to get a degree in library science. I went back to Immaculata and worked part-time toward my degree at Catholic University; I finally got it in December of 1972. I worked briefly in a technical library in Virginia until one very snowy day that I decided to stay home where I got a call from Dr. Caponio to find out if I was interested in working at the National Agricultural Library. My answer was obvious, and I was hired three months later as a cataloger for Spanish and Portuguese language materials.

Three years later I went to the Serials Branch as a serials librarian where I stayed until 1983. At that time I was appointed Acting Head of Serials in the reorganization initiated by the then newly-appointed director Joe Howard, who moved the former Head of Serials to the position of Head of Indexing. Thanks to Linda Bartley, the CONSER Coordinator at the Library of Congress, I decided to apply for the job of Head of Serials, which I got in 1984. After another reorganization in 1987, I returned to Cataloging as head, and here I am ready to retire in 1994.

The theme of the National Women's History Month this year is: "In every generation action frees our dreams." The key word here is action, and looking retrospectively at my life and the circumstances in which I was involved because of the Castro revolution, I can see, and I hope you can too, how actions taken without hesitation at the right time and sometimes in a bold manner allowed me to fulfill, if not all my dreams, at least a life that I can look back on with satisfaction and pride.

As a last word I want to say very loud that I thank everyday the Good Lord that brought me and my family to this wonderful country that with all its problems is the best country of the world.

In Memoriam

We were all saddened that Mrs. Acosta's husband Virgilio Acosta died in May 1994. The preceding article was being prepared for this issue of *ALIN* at the time.



ENAL Trains at NAL

by Deborah Y. Richardson
Head, Educational Programs, NAL

They came with a sense of adventure and an open mind. This was their first trip to the United States. They left with memories of ISIS, AGRICOLA, MARC format, fried chicken, and many new friends. Eight members of the Egyptian National Agricultural Library spent approximately eight weeks at NAL from March 21 to May 18, 1994.

The entire group started off with microcomputer training conducted by Joyce Bolton. They were introduced to DOS, Windows, and word processing.

Half of the group trained in cataloging, the remainder in public services. The cataloging group included Ms. Nadia Ahmed Ahmed Dabbah, Ms. Hanan Hassan Eissa Mohamed, Ms. Safaa Ismail Ali Abd El Mohsen and Mr. Said Abdel Monem El Sayed Khalaf. (See the article by Ellen Nollman following this one.) In addition to acquiring training in the many aspects of cataloging, the ENAL staff prepared for the challenge of converting their library holdings from the Dewey decimal classification system to the Library of Congress classification system.

The public services group included Ms. Afaf Ismail Abdul Wahid, Mr. Ahmed Youssef Kashef Osman, Mr. Atef Zaki Ahmed El Maghraby, and

Mr. Magdi Abd El Rahman Ibrahim. Their training focused on reference services and educational programs. They were given an overview of materials and methodology employed by NAL's reference staff. The entire reference staff, headed by John Forbes, participated in the training. Topics ranged from how to track statistics to staffing the Reference Desk. AGRI-COLA online and on CD-ROM were covered extensively by our training staff, Paul Hosman, Karl Schneider, and Maria Stransky. A brief overview of the Document Delivery Services Branch was included in the training, since these ENAL staff will also be responsible for circulation activities at their library. They also attended the Current Research Information System (CRIS) workshop.

Accompanied by Robert Anderson, the ENAL reference group took trips to the SIGCAT'94 conference to glean information on CD-ROM technology, the National Library of Medicine, and NAL's DC Reference Center. Anderson also accompanied the entire group of eight to the Library of Congress.

Karl Schneider and Peggy Beavers accompanied the group to the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore (UMES), at Princess Anne to visit the

Frederick Douglass Library and its staff. This visit was hosted by the Director, Mrs. Jessie Smith. The UMES staff is currently involved with a project with the Ain Shams University in Cairo. The ENAL and UMES staffs enjoyed meeting and exchanging information. After leaving UMES, the group made a side trip to Ocean City for dinner at a typical Maryland crab house.

Ms. Molly Brennan of the Cooperative State Research Service, Office of Small-Scale Agriculture, USDA, arranged for the Public Services group to meet Pat Jordan, Administrator for the Cooperative State Research Service, Dean Plowman, Acting Assistant Secretary for Science and Education, and George Cooper, a former Dean of Tuskegee University for an informal gathering. She also arranged for them to meet fellow Egyptian, Dr. Talaat Shehata, Director of International Programs, and Dean Oliver of the College of Agriculture, University of Maryland, College Park.

The U.S. visit of these eight Egyptians ended with a small farewell party and presentation of certificates for all of their training. NAL looks forward to their returning in the future for advanced training and more field trips.

As we waited at the airport for their flight to be called, the Egyptians all agreed that they enjoyed their stay at NAL and wanted to thank all of the NAL staff members who interacted with them. They also all remarked on how beautiful Maryland is because it has so many trees and how much they missed Egyptian food. They were on their way home just in time to participate in the "Great Feast," which is a religious holiday.

Cataloging Branch Trains Egyptian Librarians

by Ellen A. Nollman
Cataloging Branch, NAL

On March 30, 1994, four catalogers from the Egyptian National Agricultural Library (ENAL) began an intensive seven-week training program in the Cataloging Branch at NAL. The trainees were Nadia Ahmed Ahmed Dabbah, Head of Technical Services at ENAL; Safaa Ismail Ali; Hanan Hassan Eissa; and Said Khallaf. Their



photo: J. Swab

The eight Egyptians visiting with the NAL Acting Director, Pamela André; (L-R) Mr. El Maghraby, Ms. El Mohsen, Ms. Dabbah, Ms. Mohamed, Ms. André, Mr. Khallaf, Mr. Osman, Ms. Abdul Wahid, and Mr. Ibrahim, moments before a library reception for them.

training included the MARC format, LC classification and subject headings, monographic descriptive cataloging according to AACR2, with special emphasis on the proper formation of personal and corporate headings, ISIS searching and database maintenance, and OCLC searching, inputting, editing, and record production methods. Training was also given in the basics of serials and audiovisuals cataloging.

Trainers Mike Esman, Ellen Nollman, and Gloria Pugh were impressed with the motivation and enthusiasm of the ENAL visitors. They worked diligently in mastering new cataloging rules and the on-line bibliographic databases. On their return to Egypt, the trainees will be teaching other ENAL catalogers what they learned while at NAL. The ENAL staff will be using both OCLC and VTLS.

Although the ENAL staff received a foundation in the principles and practices of cataloging, further training is still necessary. It is hoped that this additional training will be held in the near future.

NAL Welcomes Delegation from ENAL

NAL Acting Director Pamela André and other managers at NAL will host visits by two additional groups from the Egyptian National Agricultural Library (ENAL) beginning the week of August 1. The first will consult with NAL about the ENAL implementation of an integrated library system, and will visit the corporate headquarters of VTLS, Inc. (Virginia Tech Library Systems) in Blacksburg, Virginia, regarding computer hardware, software, and the developing ENAL system. An orientation at NAL and a visit to the Library of Congress will also be arranged. The delegation consists of Dr. Yousef Ali Hamdi; Dr. Ahmed Khairy Ramadan El-Sherif; and Mr. Khalid Mahdy Ibraheem Gumaa. Later in the month Mrs. Wafaa Mohamed Sabet Ahmed and Ms. Dalia Mohamed Mohamed Metawea will return to NAL to continue ordering books and serials for the ENAL collection.

—Joseph N. Swab



Historical Society Exhibition Celebrates Gardening

The National Agricultural Library is a major contributor to a gardening exhibit at the Historical Society of Talbot County in Easton, Maryland. NAL's Special Collections are the source of 47 items in the exhibition, ranging from original pomology art to World War I Garden Posters. These materials will be on loan from NAL through the end of exhibit, August 31, 1994.

The Historical Society of Talbot County honors the artistry and aesthetics of Talbot's gardening enthusiasts with an exhibition entitled, "Green Horizons: Women, Gardening, and Talbot County." The exhibition focuses on the role flowers and gardens played in the lives of the women of Talbot County in the 20th Century. The exhibition encompasses three themes: Women of Talbot County in the Garden, 1917-1947; The Talbot County Garden Club, a continuing legacy since 1917; and Women in the Victory Garden. "Green Horizons: Women, Gardening, and Talbot County" will be on display through August 31st.

This gardening exhibition is a tribute to the memory of the late Mrs. John E. Jackson, Director Emeritus of the Historical Society. Mrs. Jackson was a devoted member of the Talbot County Garden Club and a leading force in creating the Society's award-winning public gardens.

Flowers and gardens played a major role in mid-19th century life and continued to be a focus for many American women through the 20th century.



photo courtesy of Historical Society of Talbot County, MD

At the opening of the "Green Horizons: Women, Gardening, and Talbot County" exhibit, some NAL posters are viewed by Tom Bryant, Jr., and Dennis Bixler of the Associates of the National Agricultural Library, Inc.

Notable American painters featured women in their gardens. The study of horticulture attracted female students throughout the country and local garden clubs were incorporated to advance the conservation of the country's resources and to protect and restore the quality of the environment. While only a small number of women became professional gardeners, hundreds of dedicated and talented home gardeners found satisfaction in restoring earlier gardens or designing new ones. The exhibition's photographs and objects, along with works written about gardens in the period, set the stage for understanding the importance of the garden for Talbot County women involved in their design, creation, and maintenance.

Many Talbot County Gardens owe their existence to creative and talented women active in the first half of the 20th century. These women, with their deep interest in horticulture and landscape design, created and restored gardens for both public enjoyment and private use. Through books and professional and amateur activities, women shaped their surroundings.

Amateur activities were often associated with garden clubs. Visitors to the exhibition will learn about the Talbot County Garden Club, founded in 1917 by a small number of men and women, whose emphasis was the development of new gardens and the restoration of old ones. As a typical garden organization, it provided an opportunity for members interested in horticulture and gardening to exchange information, to tour each other's gardens, and to have an impact on public spaces. At the same time professional women garden designers grew in number during the first decades of the 20th century, and their work left its mark on Talbot County. These talented women, whether professional or amateur, influenced the shape of the 20th-century landscape.

Throughout the years, the Talbot County Garden Club has made community service its mandate. Photographs in the exhibit illustrate some of the community projects that were suggested early in the Garden Club's history and which continue to be a focus of the club today. From flower shows, to tree planting, to highway beautifica-

tion, to gardening programs for children, the Talbot County Garden Club has played an important role in the progressive development of Easton and surrounding communities.

In 1917, and again in 1942, as men of Talbot County prepared to go off to war, the women were being enlisted into the war effort at home. They were urged to participate in food production and food conservation as a basic and important demonstration of patriotism. Through newspapers, speeches, and colorful posters, women were urged to produce and can food from their war gardens. Although women of Talbot County were not large-scale farmers, they were very likely to have gotten their produce out of the garden and into the kitchen for canning.

"Green Horizons: Women, Gardening, and Talbot County" celebrates gardening and the importance of gardens for many American women. The exhibition includes objects from the permanent collection of the Historical Society as well as objects on loan from Talbot County families, friends of the Historical Society, the Smithsonian Institution, and the National Agricultural Library of the United States Department of Agriculture.

The Historical Society of Talbot County is located at 25 South Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601. Museum hours are Tuesday through

Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Admission is \$2.00 for non-members and \$.50/students, special group rates are available. For more information, call 410-822-0773.

— Georgia Adler and the *Historical Society of Talbot County Newsletter*

NAL Helps with Smokey Bear Celebration

Items from the National Agricultural Library form a significant part of a national exhibit marking the 50th anniversary of Smokey Bear, the popular icon of forest fire prevention. The exhibit will be on display, August 9 through September 5, 1994, in the patio of the Administration Building of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The exhibit, which is touring various cities in the United States throughout the year, features posters, toys, comic books, coloring books, audio recordings of songs and radio ads, television commercials, and other material.

"The National Agricultural Library has one of the most outstanding collections of Smokey Bear materials available anywhere," said Alan Fusonie, Head of NAL Special Collections. "When the organizations sponsoring



photo courtesy of International Cultural Communications

Smokey artists Harry Rossoll (L), Rudy Wendelin (R), and a young fan, join Smokey Bear at the exhibit opening, "Happy Birthday Smokey," in Atlanta.

Smokey's anniversary celebration decided to develop a touring exhibit, they naturally included NAL."

Fusonie explained that the Smokey Bear poster collection at NAL was given to the library by the U.S. Forest Service. Since NAL is a national library of the United States, and since both NAL and the Forest Service are agencies of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the library was a logical home for the Forest Service collection. "Since receiving the Forest Service materials on Smokey in 1990, NAL has been augmenting the collection with donations from other sources," he said.

The touring exhibit, called "Happy Birthday Smokey!," was developed by the Fernbank Museum of Natural History in Atlanta, in cooperation with the Forest Service, International Cultural Communications, and Historic Preservation Associates. The latter two are private businesses in Washington, D.C.

Fusonie explained that Dr. Jean Pablo with Historic Preservation Associates, spent weeks going through the NAL Smokey Bear collection, selecting and curating materials for the exhibit. "Dr. Pablo was aided in making her choices by Rudolph Wendelin, one of the original Forest Service artists to work on the Smokey Bear character."

"Happy Birthday Smokey!" traces the history and future of Smokey Bear, the success of the Cooperative Forest



photo courtesy of International Cultural Communications

Girl Scout Troup 2060 wishes Smokey Bear a happy birthday at the exhibit opening in the Fernbank Museum of Natural History, Atlanta, GA.

Fire Prevention Program, the ecological role of forests and the science of fire.

The exhibit has been on display in Dallas, Texas, and Atlanta, Fusonie said. After its August appearance in Washington, D.C., it will move on to Chicago. Specific information on dates and places is available by contacting International Cultural Communications at (202) 333-1122.

For additional information about

NAL's special collections, contact Alan Fusonie at:

Telephone: (301) 504-5876

TDD/TTY: (301) 504-6856

FAX: (301) 504-7098

Internet: afusonie@nalusda.gov

Or write to:

Alan Fusonie

Head, Special Collections

National Agricultural Library, USDA

10301 Baltimore Boulevard

Beltsville, MD 20705-2351



photo: J. Swab

Part of the exhibit on the history of Swiss agriculture, the Swiss in the U.S., and the Albertoni family at the Swiss Embassy.

Exhibit Shows Swiss Contributions to U.S. Agriculture

The contributions to U.S. agriculture of immigrants from the Italian-speaking region of Switzerland is the subject of a new exhibit open to the public in the lobby of the National Agricultural Library through the end of September.

Focusing on the Albertonis, a California family descended from immigrants from Ticino, Switzerland, the exhibit includes historical photographs, rare agricultural reference books, and other materials from the NAL collection. The exhibit covers agriculture in Switzerland, the Swiss



photo: J. Swab

NAL Acting Director Pamela André (R) greets Mrs. Albertoni at the opening of the exhibit at the Swiss Embassy.

immigrants' contributions to farming methods throughout the United States, and contributions of Swiss-Italian immigrants to California agriculture in particular.

The exhibit is sponsored by the Embassy of Switzerland, the NAL Special Collections Unit, and the Associates of the National Agricultural Library, a private "friends of the library" group. The exhibit just completed a popular and successful showing at the Embassy of Switzerland from March 21 through May 1994.

Speaking about the background of the exhibit, Dr. Alan Fusonie, head of NAL Special Collections said, "U.S. agriculture developed through a melding of agricultural techniques from countries throughout the world. Each group of immigrants that came to this country brought its own methods for growing crops and raising livestock. Through the years, these methods have blended with improved farming practices developed and introduced in this country. The Swiss-Italians have been major contributors to this process."

Fusonie indicated that the first Swiss-Italians who settled in the Salinas Valley of California were dairy farmers who provided milk, butter, and cheese to the gold-rush crazy population around the San Francisco area in the mid-1800s. "The Salinas Valley, at

about the turn of the century, became the site of the largest Swiss-Italian community in the United States," Fusonie said. "Osvaldo Albertoni, the patriarch of the California family, came to the valley in 1927 from his boyhood home near the city of Locarno, Switzerland."

Albertoni and his wife, Onorina, farmed a 226-acre ranch in Monterey County for fifty years before retiring. Today, their son raises cattle and grows crops on the Albertoni ranch.

The public is invited to view the exhibit in the NAL lobby from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday (ex-

cept holidays). The exhibit will run through the end of September 1994.

For additional information contact Dr. Alan Fusonie at:

Telephone: (301) 504-5876

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FAX: (301) 504-7098

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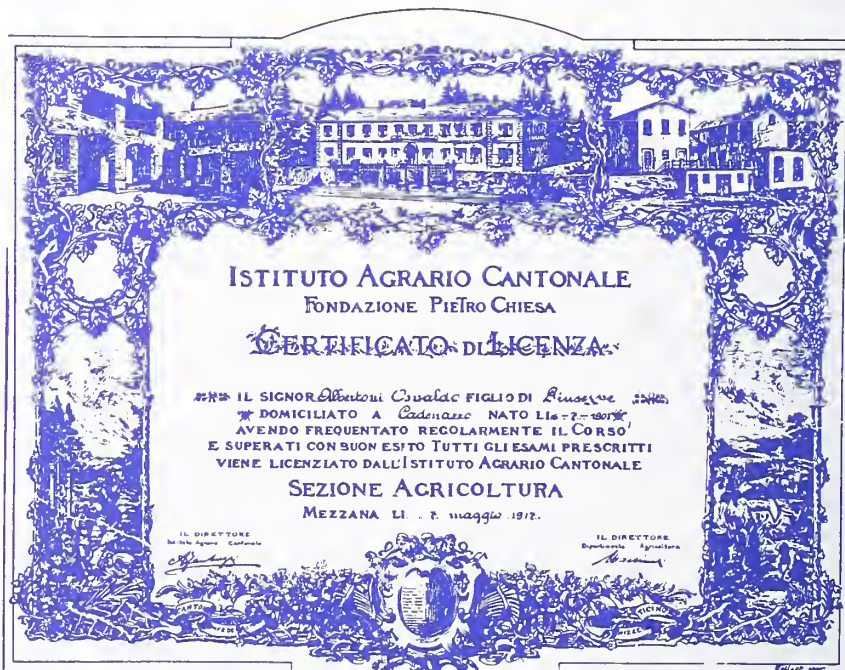


photo: J. Swab

Pamela André and Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Richard Rominger following the exhibit opening ceremony on March 11th at the Swiss Embassy.

Or write to:

National Agricultural Library, USDA
Attn: Dr. Alan Fusonie, Head
Special Collections Program, 4th
Floor
10301 Baltimore Boulevard
Beltsville, MD 20705-2351



One of the artifacts in the exhibit now at the National Agricultural Library is this certificate awarded to Osvaldo Albertoni on the 7th of May in 1917. Rare books and grape illustrations from the library are also exhibited.



New Bibliographies

The bibliographies in the *Quick Bibliography* series are primarily computerized online as batch bibliographies emanating from searches performed by the NAL Public Services Division Staff in response to customer requests. Searches are selected for inclusion based on the currency of the topic, interest among clientele, and probable value to a larger audience. Since October 1988, all *QB's* include search strategies. Unless otherwise specified, citations are from AGRICOLA.

The other bibliographic series, including *Special Reference Briefs*, have been researched and produced to meet special needs of clientele of the Library and its Information Centers. Revisions or updates will be announced when produced. Only one copy of a requested title will be sent; however, requesters may make copies. To request a copy of a *Quick Bibliography*, *Special Reference Brief*, or other bibliographic work, circle the desired title(s) below and send your request with a self-addressed label to:

Reference Branch, Room 100
National Agricultural Library, USDA
10301 Baltimore Boulevard
Beltsville, MD 20705-2351

Quick Bibliographies

Q.B.—94-19. Animal Models of Disease, January 1988-January 1994. 229 citations; languages: none excluded. Prepared by Cynthia Petrie Smith and Jean A. Larson. Animal Welfare Information Center. March 1994. Updates Q.B. 92-61.

Q.B.—94-20. Biotechnology: Commercialization and Economic Aspects, January 1991-January 1994. 209 citations in English. Prepared by Kim Guenther, Annette Colbert, Susan Mc-

Carthy, and Raymond Dobert. Biotechnology Information Center. Plant Genome Data and Information Center. April 1994. Updates Q.B. 92-60.

Q.B.—94-21. Anesthesia and Analgesia for Farm Animals, January 1987-January 1994. 336 citations in English. Prepared by Tim Allen. Animal Welfare Information Center. April 1994.

Q.B.—94-22. Housing, Husbandry, and Welfare of Horses, January 1988-January 1994. 305 citations; languages: none excluded. Prepared by Cynthia Petrie Smith. Animal Welfare Information Center. April 1994. Updates Q.B. 93-09.

Q.B.—94-23. Animal Welfare Legislation and Regulations, January 1989-January 1994. 255 citations; languages: none excluded. Prepared by Cynthia Petrie Smith. Animal Welfare Information Center. April 1994. Updates Q.B. 92-35.

Q.B.—94-24. The Dog, January 1985-January 1994. 478 citations; languages: none excluded. Prepared by Cynthia Petrie Smith. Animal Welfare Information Center. April 1994.

Q.B.—94-25. The Cat, January 1984-January 1994. 397 citations; languages: none excluded. Prepared by Cynthia Petrie Smith. Animal Welfare Information Center. April 1994.

Q.B.—94-26. Housing, Husbandry, and Welfare of Selected Birds (Quail, Pheasant, Finches, Ostrich, Dove, Parrot), December 1980-December 1993. 154 citations; languages: none excluded. Prepared by Michael D. Kreger. Animal Welfare Information Center. April 1994. Updates Q.B. 91-72.

Q.B.—94-27. Risk Assessment and

Communication Related to Water Resources, January 1985-December 1993. 137 citations; languages: none excluded. Prepared by Joe Makuch and Bonnie Emmert. Water Quality Information Center. April 1994.

Q.B.—94-28. Attitudes Toward Water Resources, January 1988-December 1993. 192 citations; languages: none excluded. Prepared by Joe Makuch and Bonnie Emmert. Water Quality Information Center. April 1994.

Q.B.—94-29. Aquaculture: Catfish Farming, January 1983-April 1993. 132 citations; languages: none excluded. Prepared by Mary E. Edsall and Ann Townsend Young. Aquaculture Information Center. April 1994. Updates Q.B. 92-65.

Q.B.—94-30. Rural Industrialization, January 1986-March 1994. 260 citations in English. Prepared by Patricia La Caille John. Rural Information Center. May 1994. Updates Q.B. 92-38.

Q.B.—94-31. Zoonoses: Disease Transmission from Animal to Man, January 1988-January 1994. 263 citations; languages: none excluded. Prepared by D'Anna Berry. Animal Welfare Information Center. May 1994. Updates Q.B. 92-33.

Q.B.—94-32. Transport and Handling of Livestock and Poultry, January 1984-January 1994. 308 citations; languages: none excluded. Prepared by D'Anna Berry. Animal Welfare Information Center. May 1994. Updates Q.B. 92-57.

Q.B.—94-33. Biotechnology: Legislation and Regulation, January 1989-January 1994. 297 citations in English. Prepared by Kim Guenther and Raymond Dobert. Biotechnology Information Center. May 1994. Updates Q.B. 92-53.

Q.B.—94-34. Transgenic Animals, January 1991-February 1994. 204 citations in English. Prepared by Raymond Dobert. Biotechnology Information Center. June 1994. Updates Q.B. 92-19.

Q.B.—94-35. Irrigating Efficiently, January 1988-February 1994. 264 citations; languages: none excluded. Prepared by Joe Makuch and Bonnie Emmert. Water Quality Information Center. June 1994.

Q.B.—94-36. Housing, Husbandry, and Welfare of Sheep and Goats, January 1985-April 1994. 425 citations; languages: none excluded. Prepared by D'Anna Berry. Animal Welfare Information Center. June 1994.

Q.B.—94-37. Aquaculture: Salmon and Trout Farming, January 1979-March 1994. 114 citations; languages: none excluded. Prepared by Ann Townsend Young and Mary E. Edsall. Aquaculture Information Center. June 1994.

Q.B.—94-38. Legumes in Crop Rotations, January 1990-December 1993. 429 citations in English. Prepared by Mary V. Gold. Alternative Farming Systems Information Center. June 1994. Updates Q.B. 90-02 and Q.B. 88-45. [NOTE: This was printed with citations 385-429 missing; these will be on an insert.]

Q.B.—94-39. Information Access in Rural America, January 1980-April 1994. 166 citations in English. Prepared by Patricia La Caille John. Rural Information Center. June 1994. Updates Q.B. 92-18.

Q.B.—94-40. Leadership Development, January 1984-April 1994. 181 citations in English. Prepared by Patricia La Caille John. Rural Information Center. June 1994.

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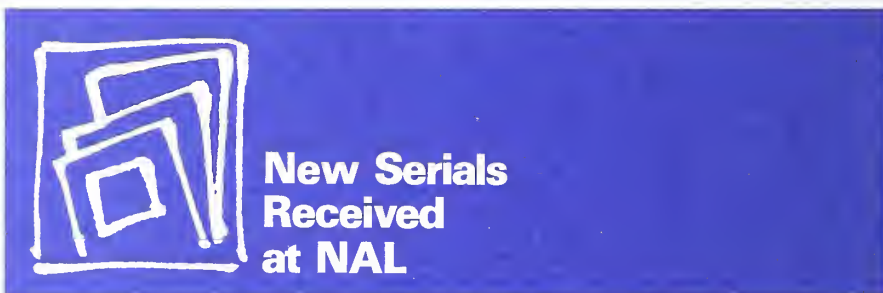
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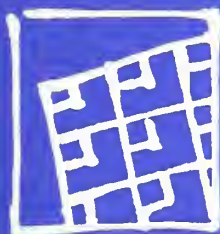
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Agriculture Datebook

For many years *ALIN* has included a section called "Agriculture Datebook," which has included information about agricultural and related subject meetings, conferences, conventions, congresses, fairs and expositions, symposia, seminars, workshops, courses, and similar events. Meetings included in the list were selected from USDA's *Ag Calendar* and information provided by NAL's eleven information centers, and derived from federal and state agencies, associations, interest groups, and others.

In the *ALIN* issue for May-July 1993

(Vol. 19, Nos. 5-7, page 25), the editor asked readers to comment on the usage of the "Agriculture Datebook" items, and whether or not readers would object to having to obtain the information from ALF (Agricultural Library Forum), NAL's electronic bulletin board. On page 26 of the same issue of *ALIN* there was a short article, "Agricultural Calendars on ALF," that explained the access to the variety of information available from most of NAL's information centers and the USDA "Ag Calendar." It was proposed that *ALIN* would drop the "Agriculture Datebook" and that

readers would have to obtain the information from ALF in the future.

Neither the editor of *ALIN* nor the systems operator of ALF received any commentary on this proposal. Therefore, this issue of *ALIN* does not include the "Agriculture Datebook." Readers are directed to ALF to obtain the information on agricultural meetings, conferences, etc. The article, "Agricultural Calendar Listings in ALF," on pages 11-13 of this issue of *ALIN* describes the access through ALF.

—Joseph N. Swab, *ALIN* Editor.



photo: J. Swab

Rare illustrations and books from NAL's Special Collections form a significant part of the exhibit on Swiss agriculture and Swiss immigrants and their agriculture in the U.S. that is now exhibited in the NAL lobby after a popular showing at the Swiss Embassy in Washington, D.C. It will remain at NAL till the end of September before moving to California. For more about NAL exhibits see pages 23-26 of this issue of *ALIN*.

(Above right) Graphic used by Beth Sandore in presenting her report *AGRICOLA Across the Internet: User Needs*. See page 8 for summary.

AGRICOLA Across the Internet: User Needs



A report prepared for the National Agricultural Library by
Beth Sandore, University of Illinois, 19 May, 1994

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